GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1531
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2001
PERFORMANCE OF KRASNOPOL SHELL
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;KAMAL NATH;RAM JEEVAN SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of the Krasnopol laser-guided 155 mm shell purchased by India as a fall out of the Kargil conflict was increased by Rs. 10 crore inspite of the recommendations of the price negotiating Committee which fixed price of 1000 rounds of shells at Rs. 140 crores;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Krasnopol shell performed well in test trial at Pokharan but failed in high altitude areas in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) whether it has been ensured that there will be better performance of this laser-guided shell in mountain regions;

(e) whether subsequent tests have since been carried out; and

(f) if so, the results thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the answer at (a) above.
(c) The Phase-I of trials of Krasnopol ammunition was conducted at Pokhran Field Firing Ranges from 22ndto 23rd February, 1999 and the trials were successful. As Range Table for heights of more than 3000 meters were not available with the Russians, Phase-II of the trials were conducted at Kurbathang Field Firing Ranges near Kargil in February-March 1999. These trials were unsuccessful. After the compilation of the range table by the Russians for heights more than 3000 meters, validation firing was done in October, 1999. Phase- IV of trials of Krasnopol ammunition conducted in Mahe ranges, near Leh, in November, 1999 were successful.

(d) The Krasnopol ammunition was accepted for procurement only after the ammunition was successfully trial evaluated in high altitude areas. It was recommended for introduction into service by the Army.

(e) & (f): No subsequent tests have been required in the High Altitude Areas. However, subsequent firing of this ammunition in plains has been successful.